

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-25 (canceled)

26. (new): A device for producing and making ready for dispatching cardboard packaging made from folded boxes (10), each for a plurality of bundle packs (12), formed as a pack group (19), which are filled into a laterally-open folding box (10), the filled folding box (10) being fed to a downstream closing station (25) and subsequently to a palleting station (29) for transfer to a pallet (11), **characterized by** the following features:

- a) a grouping station (18), a packing station (21), the closing station (25) and a box receptacle (32) in a region of the palleting station (29) are arranged in a common horizontal plane,
- b) the grouping station (18) is arranged adjacent to the packing station (21) such that the pack group (19) is pushed by transversely-displaceable slides (20) into the laterally-open folding box (10) which is held ready in the packing station (21),
- c) the filled box (10) is transported to the following closing station (25) along a rectilinear movement path, wherein during transport laterally directed box folding tabs (22) are folded in a closed position and fixed by adhesive tapes (27),
- d) the finished boxes (10) are conveyed in continuation of the movement path to the box receptacle (32) of the palleting station (29) and deposited,

- e) a pallet (11) to be loaded is positioned laterally adjacent to the box receptacle (32),
- f) a portal robot (37) with a lifting head (38) is moved in the region of the pallet (11) to be loaded and the box receptacle (32) for gripping a box (10) placed on the box receptacle (32) and depositing it on the adjacently located pallet (11),
- g) the portal robot (37) comprises an upright loadbearing column (43), which is displaceable in a direction transverse to the transporting direction of the boxes (10) in the region of the palleting station (29),
- h) the loadbearing column (43) is displaceable on a lower carrying beam (47) and an upper carrying beam (48), which are disposed laterally offset adjacent to the region of the box receptacle (32) and the pallet (11) to be loaded, and
- i) a transverse carrying arm (39) is movable up and down on the loadbearing column (43), and a lifting head (38) travels on the transverse carrying arm (39) along its longitudinal direction.

27. (new): A device for producing and making ready for dispatching cardboard packaging made from folded boxes (10), each for a plurality of bundle packs (12), formed as a pack group (19), which are filled into a laterally-open folding box (10) in a region of a packing station (21), the filled folding box (10) being fed along a rectilinear, horizontal movement path successively to a box-closing station (25) and a palleting station (29) and to be deposited on a pallet (11) by a portal robot (37) disposed next to the palleting station (29), **characterized by** the following features:

- a) the closed boxes are deposited in the palleting station (29) on a box receptacle (32) for transfer by the portal robot (37),
- b) empty pallets (11) to be loaded are stored next to the box receptacle (32) in a lower loading plane,
- c) the empty pallets (11) are displaceable transversely to the feed direction of the boxes (10) in the region of the palleting station (29),
- d) the empty pallets (11) are displaced in a feed plane below the box receptacle into a loading position next to the box receptacle (32), and
- e) after a pallet (11) is loaded, it is moved out of the palleting station (29) in the same direction.

28. (new): The device according to Claim 27, **characterized in that** the empty pallets (11) are moved on rail-like underlying surfaces (51) below the box receptacle (32) into the loading position next to the box receptacle (32) and moved out of the loading position as loaded pallets (11) in the same direction of movement.